INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: <u>Nicholas House</u>	Survey Number: D -701
Project: <u>Dorchester County Power Plant</u>	Agency: <u>Delmarva</u>
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name	Date
Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recomm	mended
Criteria:AB _X_CD Considerations:AI	BCDEFGNone
Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if ne	ecessary and attach map)
Originally part of a 521-1/2-acre tract of land called County, Maryland, the Nicholas House or Boevers Farm prese The property, which includes a farmhouse and outbuilding Chicone Creek and is centered between two large and matu claims were planted in 1750 as seedlings and are known too Nicholas House retains its rural landscape and setting an farm buildings qualifies for listing in the National Register.	ntly survives as a 375-acre farm. gs, is located at a fork in the re linden trees, which the owner day as "Bicentennial Trees." The nd along with its residential and
The primary residence is a 19th-century farmhouse built oldest section, built ca. 1840, is a low-lying, two-story, the southeast rear of the dwelling. In the last quarter of rmhouse was substantially enlarged by the addition of a front facing gable in the two end bays. This addition mo of the house and re-oriented it, making the original sect century addition features late Victorian Queen Anne massing gable roof with corbelled chimneys, and a projecting from turned columns and scroll-sawn brackets.	, three-bay frame wing located at the 19th century, this vernacular two-story, five-bay section with ore than doubled the original size ion a rear wing. The late 19thing and details, including a cross
Three outbuildings are located on the property, including 20th-century agricultural buildings. The smokehouse is a pitched gable roof and weatherboard siding. It has been wagon shed, constructed of vertical wood boards and covered the northeast of the house; and a storage shed with a cellocated east of the main house. Though not contemporane outbuildings are fifty years or older and contribute agricultural use of the property and should be considered	small frame shed with a steeply converted into a pump house. A d with a gable roof, is located to ntral door flanked by windows is ous to the original house, these to the historic character and
The Nicholas House is significant as a good local example of farmhouse built in two principal stages. It combines midtraditions with late Victorian details and retains its a periods of construction, such as hand hewn beams in the or property retains its rural landscape and its associations the region. The property is eligible for listing in the NC, for local significance.	-19th-century vernacular building rchitectural integrity from both iginal section. In addition, the with the agricultural economy of
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Revie	ew and Compliance Files
Preparedby: MAARAssociates	
th Hannold	1/25/96
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
NR program concurrence: yes no not applicab	ole

_	
Survey	No. DO-703

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

Ι.	Geographic Region:	
X	Eastern Shore Western Shore Piedmont	<pre>(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil) (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's) (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)</pre>
	Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)
II.	Chronological/Developmental Pe	riods:
XX	Paleo-Indian Early Archaic Middle Archaic Late Archaic Early Woodland Middle Woodland Late Woodland/Archaic Contact and Settlement Rural Agrarian Intensification Agricultural-Industrial Transi Industrial/Urban Dominance Modern Period Unknown Period (prehisto	tion A.D. 1815-1870 A.D. 1870-1930 A.D. 1930-Present
III.	Prehistoric Period Themes:	IV. Historic Period Themes:
	Subsistence Settlement Political Demographic Religion Technology Environmental Adaptation	<pre>X Agriculture X Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning Economic (Commercial and Industrial) Government/Law Military Religion Social/Educational/Cultural Transportation</pre>
V. Re	esource Type:	
	Category: <u>Building</u>	
	Historic Environment: Rural	
	Historic Function(s) and Use(s): <u>Domestic/Single Family Dwelling</u>
	Known Design Source:	

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

D-701 - Boevers Farm

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Development Period: Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1815-1870 and

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme: Agriculture and Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling

Agriculture-Subsistence/Agricultural Outbuildings

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust Historic Properties State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No.D-701
Magi No.
DOE __yes __no

1. Nam	le (indicate pr	referred name)		
-				
historic Boe	evers Farm, Chic	one Farms/Chicone	Wm. J Post Fari	m, Dorco Farms
and/or common	Nicholas Hous	: e		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	4823 Vienna-R	nodesdale Road		not for publication
city, town Vi	enna	_X_ vicinity of	congressional district	
state Mary	land	county	Dorchester	
3. Clas	sification			
Category — district bullding(s) X structure — site — object	Ownership public X private both Public Acquisition in process being considered not_applicable	StatusX_ occupied unoccupied work in progress AccessibleX_ yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use X agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	rty (give names an	d mailing addresses	of <u>all</u> owners)
name	Raymond E. Nich	olas		
street & number	4823 Vienna-Rho		telephone no	.:
city, town V	ienna	state		
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Descriptio	MD Z	1869
		hester County Cou		liber PLC-241
street & number	High Stree	t		folio 598
city, town	Cambridge		state	MD
6. Repr	esentation	in Existing	Historical Surve	
title				
date			federal state	gounts loos
∌pository for su	rvey records		rederal state	county local
city, town			state	

Survey No. D-701

Condition

____ fair

___ excellent _X good

___ deteriorated ___ ruins

___ unexposed

Check one

___ unaltered _X altered

Check one

__X original site ___ moved d

oved date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

8. S	ign	ificance		Survey No. D-701	
1700 X 1800)—1499)—1599)—1699)—1799)—1899	archeology-historicX agricultureX architecture	community planning	iterature military music t philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarlan theater transportatior
Specific	dates		Builder/Architect		<u> </u>
check:	aı App1:	icable Criteria: _A nd/or icable Exception: _A l of Significance:	A _B _C _D		
Prepare support	e both	a summary paragraph o			f history and

Major Bibliographical References Survey No. D-701 Jones, Elias: New Revised History of Dorchester County, Tidelo, 1966 Land 1974 Stiverson 1977 M-93 Report Griffing and Lake 1877 **Geographical Data** 10. Acreage of nominated property Approx. 120.91 acres Rhodesdale Quadrangle scale 1:24000 Quadrangle name _ **UTM References** do NOT complete UTM references **Northing** Easting Zone Easting Zone Verbal boundary description and justification Tax Map 56. Parcel 118 List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries state code county code code state county code **Form Prepared By** Lauren Archibald and Judith Rosentel and Betty C. Zebooker name/title organization MAAR Associates, Inc. date November 1993 P.O. Box 655 telephone (302) 368-5777 street & number Newark DE state city or town The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement. The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights. MARYLAND MISTORICAL TELE

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND FILSTON CALCALLAND PHOP/DHOL 100 COMMUNITY PLACE CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-200 514-7600

7. Des	cription		Survey No.D-701
Condition excellent _X good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one _X original site moved date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This nineteenth century farmhouse was built in at least two sections, ca. 1840, with the north end and front porch added later, ca. 1870-1890. The house has a side gable roof, ell facing front, and 2 1/2 stories. The main facade has five bays, which includes three on the side gable portion and two on the front gable portion. The front door features a transom and sidelights. The north gable end is blank except for two small attic windows which flank the chimney. Windows on the house are 6/6 sash, and the open porch has a hip roof and decorative wood brackets and spindles. There are a total of three interior chimneys. The north chimney is corbeled and the one on the south side has been rebuilt; the chimney on the western end of the house pierces the center of that westernmost, and probably oldest, portion. The house is now covered with asbestos siding and an asphalt shingle roof.

The house is one room deep with a generally center hall plan. The rear or southeast section housed the original kitchen and cookstove, and a small staircase is still used to access the second floor. The older portion of the house appears to have been the south and southeast portion. If so, the house would have had a side gable form, as was prevalent for that period in Dorchester County; and the main entrance would have been on the south side instead of the west side of the house where it is today. There is still an entrance on the south side of the house, but a covered porch has been added to this section.

Fireplaces are present on the north and south walls in the principal rooms of the house, including the living room, dining room, and bedrooms. The simple mantles vary slightly from one room to the next. A bathroom was added to the second floor at the top of the center stair landing.

The Boevers House is centered between two very large linden trees, which the owner says were planted in 1750 as seedlings and are known as "Bicentennial Trees."

Outbuildings

There are several outbuildings on this property, most of which appear to date from the twentieth century. To the northeast of the house is a cart house or wagon shed, constructed with vertical wood planks with shed-roof side wing. To the south of the house, close to the side porch, is a small frame structure with gable roof. The residents state that it had served as a smokehouse before they converted it into a pump shed. Behind (east) the house is a small, low frame structure with a central door flanked by two windows. appears to be used for storage.

<u> </u>	riginicance	Survey No. D-701
Period preh 1400 1500 1700 X 1800 X 1900	D-1499 archeology-historic conservation D-1599 x agriculture economics D-1699 x architecture education D-1799 art engineering D-1899 commerce exploration/settlems	g landscape architecture religion law science literature sculpture military social/ muslc bumanitarian
Specific	dates Builder/Architect	
check:	Applicable Criteria: A B XC D and/or Applicable Exception: A B C D	_EFG
	Level of Significance:nationalstate	X local

Significance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The property on which the Boevers House stands was originally a 521.5-acre tract of land called "Chickoone [sic] Farms" which was created from the larger tract of land called "Partnership." "Partnership" was originally surveyed in 1697 for Thomas Ennals as 1170 acres of land in Dorchester County. In 1703, Ennals sold the entire tract of land to Thomas Hicks. At this time, the tract of land called "Partnership" was described as situated north of the Nanticoke River on the west side of Chicone Creek adjacent to Maiden Forest. During the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the original tract of land was divided through inheritance and through the sale of various parcels ranging from 10 acres to several hundred acres, including "Chicone Farms." John Thompson purchased "Chicone Farms" from the Trustee of Isaac F. Williams during the mid-nineteenth century. On 20 September 1848, a second deed was drawn between the two parties to correct errors in the previous deed. The property remained in the Thompson family until 1875, when it was purchased by William J. Post. The 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson Atlas map of the Vienna area shows Post as occupant of the property. During this period, the tract of land was known as the "William Post Farms" and/or "Chicone Farms." In 1896, Samuel Hill, Post's assignee, sold a tract of land called "Chicone Farms" containing 375 acres to James A. Higgins. Four years later, the property known as "Chicone Farms" or the "William J. Post Farms" was sold to Henry Boever. During the twentieth century, the property was known as "Boevers' Farms" and remained in the Boever's family until the death of August Boevers in 1966. In 1973, the trustees of the Boevers' estate sold the property to Dorco Farms which is wholly owned by Raymond E. Nicolas and his wife.

Architectural evidence suggests that the earliest section of the Boevers house may have been standing when John Thompson purchased "Chicone Farms." The major additions to the house were made by Thompson or his heirs and by William J. Post who probably added the late Victorian porch. The agricultural activities represented by the farm buildings and dependencies associated with the Boevers House preserves the cultural integrity of the site as part of a working farm complex.

The agricultural activity represented by this site as part of a working farm illustrates an important aspect of the cultural history of the Eastern Shore region of Maryland. Since the mid-seventeenth century, the economy of the entire Eastern Shore has been based primarily on agriculture. Initially, the economy was based on the cultivation of a single cash crop, tobacco, which was not only the principal commodity of the region but also served as legal tender. The cultivation of tobacco was labor-intensive and highly specialized, requiring extensive hand cultivation. To accommodate tobacco cultivation, early plantations required housing for a large work force

D-701: Boevers Farm, Dorchester, County Maryland

Significance continued

consisting primarily of slaves, as well as specialized buildings for the drying and storage of tobacco and wharfs and landings for its shipment abroad (Land 1974; Stiverson 1977).

During the eighteenth century, Eastern Shore planters began substituting the cultivation of tobacco with the cultivation of wheat. Wheat as a cash crop had two major advantages over tobacco. First, the cultivation of wheat was not labor-intensive and required a large work force for only a brief period of time during harvest; second, wheat was easier and cheaper to process for market (Stiverson 1977). During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the Eastern Shore of Maryland was one of the principal commercial grain-producing regions of the United States. Wheat cultivation required different specialized buildings such as granaries and mills, as well as barns and stables for the mules, horses or oxen which played an important role in commercial grain farming.

By 1860, Maryland's Eastern Shore was no longer an important grain-producing region, and agriculture became more diversified. Some farms continued to cultivate wheat and corn as feed crops in conjunction with dairy farming, while other farms switched to the commercial cultivation of vegetables, poultry, and fruit. During this period, unsuccessful attempts were also made to cultivate rice, flax and cotton (Jones 1966; Stiverson 1977). As the scientific breeding and feeding of animals to enhance their commercial value was introduced, livestock and poultry were no longer permitted to range freely. The adoption of these scientific advances in agricultural technology often required the construction of new kinds of highly specialized agricultural buildings such as large dairy barns, silos, and commercial chicken houses, while scientific advances in the technology of preserving and shipping farm produce resulted in the construction of structures such as packing houses, slaughter houses, and canneries.

During the late nineteenth century, farm machinery of various kinds was introduced. The mechanization of various agricultural tasks such as plowing, sowing, reaping, and milking required either the enlargement of existing farm buildings such as barns and stables or the construction of new buildings to accommodate the farm machinery. At the same time, traditional accommodations for teams of horses, mules, and oxen, as well as tack rooms and cart houses became obsolete. Conversion to exterior power sources and the introduction of modern communications introduced utility poles and wires as an element of the rural landscape.

The Boevers Farm is situated at a fork in the Chicone Creek. The current owners moved here about 30 years ago and raised spinach, continuing the property's agricultural legacy. The property retains its rural landscape and it associations with the agricultural economy of the region.

The Boevers House is significant as a good local example of a vernacular Dorchester County farmhouse built in several stages. It combines several building periods ranging from mid-nineteenth century vernacular to Victorian, as evidenced by the porch added in the late nineteenth century. The house appears to have good architectural integrity from the two periods, such as hand-hewn beams in the kitchen area in the southeast portion of the house, the seven-pane transom light over the door, and four-pane sidelights on the northwest, later section. While the earlier period exemplifies vernacular traditions, the later period might indicate more affluence and a shift toward more stylish architecture. The Boevers Farm is eligible to the National Register under Criterion C.

D-701 - Chain of Title (Chicone Farms a.k.a. William J. Post Farms, Boevers Farms, Dorco Farms)

30 September 1848

WR-4-365

William Rea, Trustee of Isaac F. Williams (mortgage to Israel Griffith)

John Thompson

Two tracts or parts of tracts on Chickoone [sic] Creek commonly called Chickoone [sic] Farm cont. 521 1/2 acres. This deed given to correct errors in the original deed between the two parties.

25 July 1862

FJH-5-468

Sophia Lockerman et al.

to

Francis H. Houston and Matilda, his wife

Properties called "Addition to Partnership" (Chicone Farm) and part of "Plain Dealing"

25 February 1875

FJH-10-207

Francis H. Houstom & Matilda, his wife, Paterson, New Jersey

to

William J. Post

"Chicone Farm" cont. 521c acres and "Tackett's Luck" cont. 50 a.

8 September 1896

CL-20-1896

Samuel Hill, Assignee of Wm. J. Post

to

James A. Higgins

At public sale, default on mortgage. "Chicone Farm" cont. 375 acres more or less.

1 January 1900

CL-24-24

James A Higgins

to

Henry Boevers

All that tract of land consisting of two farms about 2 miles from Vienna nr. Chicone Creek known as "Chicone Farms" also known as "William J. Post Farms" exempting that piece of land known as "Hicks Swamp Land cont. 25 acres.

24 February 1903

CL-27-550

Henry W. Boevers et al. estate of Henry Boevers, deceased to

Augustine Boevers

All that tract of land called "Chicone"

13 June 1966

Will Book APM-5-244

LW&T of August Boevers, deceased

All of his property to be held in trust.

14 November 1973
PLC-182-322
Trustees est. of August Boevers, dec'd and
Dorco Farms
to
Raymond E. Nicolas and Louise K., his wife

Conveyance of property by order of the Chancery Court directly to sole stockholders of "Dorco Farms," part of the original "Boevers Farm."

29 September 1986
PLC-241-598
Raymond E. Nicolas and Louise h/w as tenants by entireties to themselves as tenants in common

Two parcels of land variously known as "Boevers Farm", being part of land known as "Chicone" or "Chicacone."

D-701: Boevers Farm, Dorchester, County Maryland

Major Bibliographical References continued

Archibald, Lauren, Robert F. Hoffman, Betty C. Zebooker

1994

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Tract Located in Dorchester County, Maryland. Submitted to

Delmarva Power and Light.

Jones, Elias

New Revised History of Dorchester County, Maryland. Tidewater Publishers. Cambridge, Maryland.

Lake, Griffing and Stevenson
1877 An Illustrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, Maryland.

Land, Aubrey C.

Provincial Maryland. In <u>Maryland: A History 1632 - 1974</u>. Richard Warsh and William L Fox (eds). Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore Maryland,

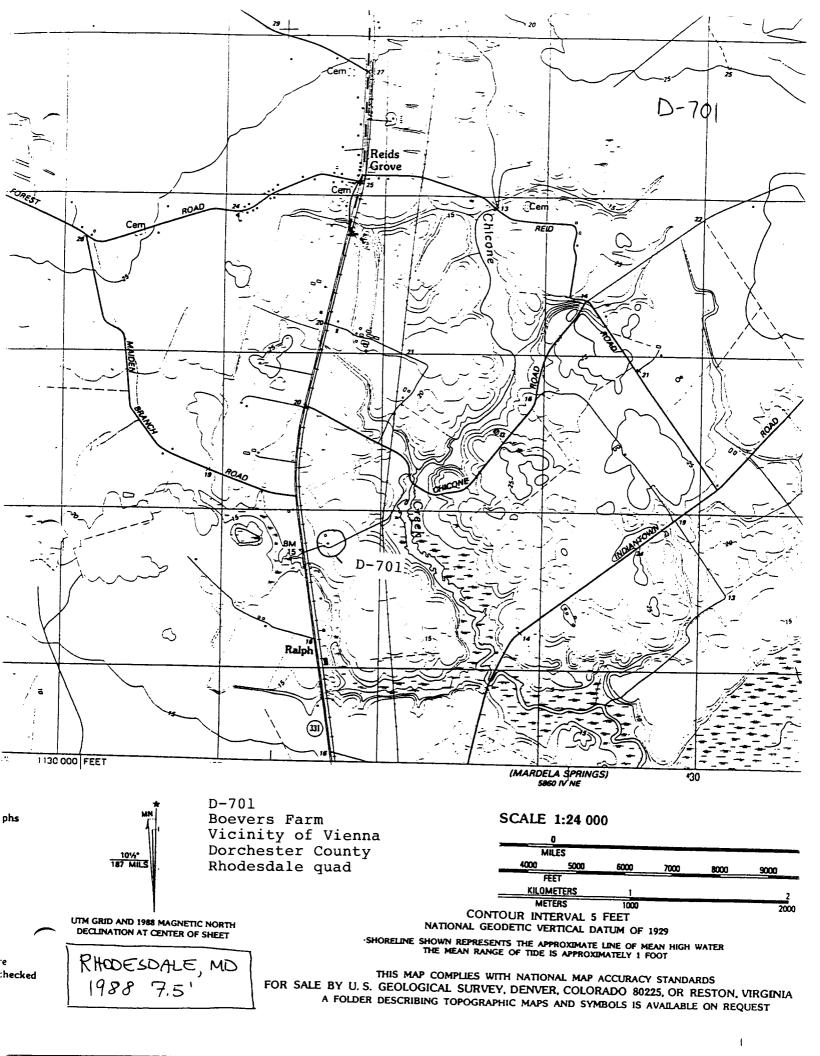
Stiverson, Gregory A.

1977

Poverty in a Land of Plenty: Tenancy in Eighteenth Century

Maryland. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.







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BUEILERS FARM CHESTER NO M REILENIN FEBIUMY 1994 MAYCHUS STPS VIEW OF WEST + SOUTH PLEO STOCKS 2 Sf 10



0-3 BEELENG I ARM DORCHESTER, ND 1 RENROLL FCBILLARY 1994 MAILING SHPC VIEW OF SOUTH PAIRS ELATION 30/10



D- 701 BOEVERS FATM DORCHESTER, MD L. ARCHIBALD SEPTEMBER 1994 MARYLAND SHOO VIEW OF WEST 4 SOLUTH FLEWATTONS 40/10



0.701 BOEVERS FAM DURCHESTER MB L. ARCHIBALD SEPTEMBER 1994 MARY LAND SHPO VIEW OF CAST (REAR) elevation 50/10



N-701 BOEVERS FAFM DORCHESTER, MD L APTHIBMA SCOTEMBER 1994 MARYLAND SHPO VIEW OF NORTH ELEVATION) 60/10



1 = 761 BEFIRE FIRM DRI-ESTER, MD M RE MELLA FEBRUARLY 1994 MARYLAND SHIPD OVERVIEW OF PORPLITY LUKING COST 70/10



D-701 BOEL RS FARIL DORCHESTER, MD - AFCHIBALD SEPTEMBER 1994 MARYLAND STOPO VIEW TO EAST OF CUIBULUANG BEHIND - Huse 88/10



1). 751 REELENSI ALL à CHERL, III M REINBOLD + CB14+1 1994 MAYLAND SHO IT IE E WEST Electron of J. Hansel 9910



D-701 BOEVERS FARM Somether MD L. Nations September 1994 MARYLAND SHOO VIEW OF OUTBUILDING to south of house, looking southeast 10 9 10